UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY	
Caption in Compliance with D.N.J. LBR 9004-1(b) COLE SCHOTZ P.C. Michael D. Sirota, Esq. (NJ Bar No. 014321986) Warren A. Usatine, Esq. (NJ Bar No. 025881995) Court Plaza North, 25 Main Street Hackensack, New Jersey 07601 (201) 489-3000 msirota@coleschotz.com wusatine@coleschotz.com Wirkland & Ellis Llp Kirkland & Ellis International Llp Joshua A. Sussberg, P.C. (admitted pro hac vice) Christine A. Okike, P.C. (admitted pro hac vice) 601 Lexington Avenue New York, New York 10022 (212) 446-4800 jsussberg@kirkland.com christine.okike@kirkland.com  Attorneys for Debtors and Debtors in Possession	HAYNES AND BOONE, LLP Richard S. Kanowitz, Esq. (NJ Bar No. 047911992) Kenric D. Kattner, Esq. (admitted pro hac vice) 30 Rockefeller Plaza, 26th Floor New York, New York 10112 (212) 659-7300 richard.kanowitz@haynesboone.com kenric.kattner@haynesboone.com  Attorneys for Debtors and Debtors in Possession
In re:	Chapter 11
BLOCKFI INC., et al.,	Case No. 22-19361 (MBK)
Debtors. 1	The Honorable Michael B. Kaplan

# SECOND SUPPLEMENTAL DECLARATION OF MARK A. RENZI IN CONNECTION WITH BERKELEY RESEARCH GROUP, LLC PROVIDING A CHIEF RESTRUCTURING OFFICER AND ADDITIONAL PERSONNEL TO THE DEBTORS

I, Mark A. Renzi, declare pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, under penalty of perjury, to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, that:

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The Debtors in these chapter 11 cases, along with the last four digits of each Debtor's federal tax identification number, are: BlockFi Inc. (0015); BlockFi Trading LLC (2487); BlockFi Lending LLC (5017); BlockFi Wallet LLC (3231); BlockFi Ventures LLC (9937); BlockFi International Ltd. (N/A); BlockFi Investment Products LLC (2422); BlockFi Services, Inc. (5965); and BlockFi Lending II LLC (0154). The location of the Debtors' service address is 201 Montgomery Street, Suite 263, Jersey City, NJ 07302.

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- 1. I am a Managing Director of Berkeley Research Group, LLC ("<u>BRG</u>"), a professional services firm with numerous offices throughout the country. I am authorized to make this second supplemental declaration (the "<u>Second Supplemental Declaration</u>") on behalf of BRG. Unless otherwise stated in this Second Supplemental Declaration, I have personal knowledge of the facts set forth herein and, if called as a witness, I could and would testify thereto.<sup>2</sup>
- 2. On December 30, 2022, the above-captioned debtors and debtors in possession (the "Debtors") filed the Debtors' Application for Entry of an Order (I) Authorizing the Retention and Employment of Berkeley Research Group, LLC as Financial Advisors to the Debtors, Effective as of the Petition Date Through the CRO Appointment Date, and (II) Authorizing Berkeley Research Group, LLC to Provide a Chief Restructuring Officer and Additional Personnel, Effective as of the CRO Appointment Date [Docket No. 174] (the "Application"). In support of the Application, BRG filed the Declaration of Mark A. Renzi in Support of the Debtors' Application for Entry of an Order (I) Authorizing the Retention and Employment of Berkeley Research Group, LLC as Financial Advisors to the Debtors, Effective as of the Petition Date Through the CRO Appointment Date, and (II) Authorizing Berkeley Research Group, LLC to Provide a Chief Restructuring Officer and Additional Personnel, Effective as of the CRO Appointment Date [Docket No 174-4] (the "Initial Declaration"). In further support of the Application, on February 9, 2023 BRG filed the First Supplemental Declaration of Mark A. Renzi in Support of the Debtors' Application for Entry of an Order (I) Authorizing the Retention and Employment of Berkeley Research Group, LLC as Financial Advisors to the Debtors, Effective as of the Petition Date Through the CRO Appointment

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Certain of the disclosures set forth herein relate to matters within the knowledge of other professionals at BRG and are based on information provided by them.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to such terms in the Application.

Date, and (II) Authorizing Berkeley Research Group, LLC to Provide a Chief Restructuring Officer and Additional Personnel, Effective as of the CRO Appointment Date [Docket No. 490] (the "First Supplemental Declaration"). On February 9, 2023, the Court entered an Order (I) Authorizing the Retention and Employment of Berkeley Research Group, LLC as Financial Advisors to the Debtors, Effective as of the Petition Date Through the CRO Appointment Date, and (II) Authorizing Berkeley Research Group, LLC to Provide a Chief Restructuring Officer and Additional Personnel, Effective as of the CRO Appointment Date [Docket No. 494] (the "Retention Order").

3. I submit this Second Supplemental Declaration to provide additional disclosures relating to additional parties in interest pursuant to the terms of BRG's Retention Order and in accordance with sections 105(a), 327(a), 328(a), and 363(b) of title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code"), Bankruptcy Rules 2014(a) and 2016 (the "Bankruptcy Rules"), and Local Rules 2014-1 and 2016-1 of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of New Jersey (the "Local Rules").

#### **Disinterestedness**

- 4. BRG has searched its electronic database of present and former clients of BRG for connections to parties in interest in these Cases, and certain connections were disclosed in the Initial Declaration and the First Supplemental Declaration. BRG has become aware of additional parties in interest in these chapter 11 Cases and has therefore updated its conflicts search.
- 5. BRG has been informed of certain additional parties in interest in these chapter 11 Cases. A schedule of additional parties in interest is attached as <u>Schedule 1</u> hereto and BRG's relationship therewith is delineated on <u>Schedule 2</u> attached hereto.
- 6. To the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, the relationships with certain parties in interest in these Cases delineated on **Schedule 2** attached hereto are unrelated to either

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the Debtors or these chapter 11 Cases. Further, these relationships do not create an interest materially adverse to the interests of the estates or of any class of creditors or equity security holders and do not create any direct or indirect relationship to, connection with, or interest in the Debtors. Given this, to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, BRG neither holds nor represents any interest adverse to the Debtors' estates and remains a disinterested party. Further, all disclosures made in the Initial Declaration and the First Supplemental Declaration pertaining to BRG's conflict check process and relationships with parties in interest are incorporated herein by reference and are fully applicable to the parties listed on Schedule 2.

#### **Unredacted Potential M&A Counterparties**

- 7. Pursuant to the Debtors' Motion for Entry of an Order Authorizing the Debtors to File Under Seal the Names of Certain Confidential Parties in Interest Related to the Debtors' Professional Retention Applications [Docket No. 127] (the "Motion to Seal"), and to avoid prejudicing the Debtors' sale processes, the Debtors redacted the names of "Potential M&A Counterparties" in each of the Prior Declarations. On March 24, 2023, the Bankruptcy Court entered the Order (I) Approving the Sale of Certain of the Debtors' Self-Mining Assets Free and Clear of All Claims, Liens, Rights, Interests and Encumbrances, (II) Authorizing the Debtors to Enter Into and Perform Their Obligations Under the Asset Purchase Agreement, and (III) Granting Related Relief [Docket No. 669] authorizing the sale of certain of the Debtors' selfmining assets to U.S. Farms & Mining Opportunity Fund LLC ("U.S. Farms").
- 8. Upon finalizing the sale to U.S. Farms, and the conclusion of the sale process for the Debtors' self-mining assets, the Debtors entered into an agreement with the United States Trustee for the District of New Jersey to unredact certain Potential M&A Counterparties that related solely to the self-mining asset sale process (the "Unredacted Potential M&A"

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Counterparties"). Schedule 1(h) contains a list of the Unredacted Potential M&A Counterparties.

All of the Unredacted Potential M&A Counterparties are unredacted pursuant to an agreement

with the United States Trustee. 4 Conflict searches with regard to the Unredacted Potential M&A

Counterparties yielded one client connection, as disclosed on **Schedule 2** attached hereto.

9. To the extent that BRG discovers any additional facts or information bearing on

matters described in this Declaration that require disclosure, during the period of the Debtors'

retention of BRG, I will file a supplemental disclosure with the Court.

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true

and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.

Dated: June 26, 2023

/s/ Mark A. Renzi

Name: Mark A. Renzi

Title: Managing Director

Berkeley Research Group, LLC

<sup>4</sup>Certain other Potential M&A Counterparties remain redacted pursuant to the Motion to Seal. The Debtors' sale process for certain of their assets remains ongoing, and disclosure of other Potential M&A Counterparties at this time may prejudice the sale process.

## SCHEDULE 1 LIST OF POTENTIAL PARTIES IN INTEREST

# **List of Schedules**

<b>Schedule</b>	<u>Category</u>
1(a)	Banks
1(b)	Potential M&A Counterparties
1(c)	Wallet Motion Objecting Parties
1(d)	Ad Hoc Committee Members
1(e)	Reed Smith Ad Hoc Committee
1(f)	Non-Debtor Professionals
1(g)	Notice of Appearance Parties
1(h)	Unredacted Potential M&A Counterparties

# **SCHEDULE 1(a)**

## **Banks**

First Citizens Bank Peapack-Gladstone Bank Webster Bank

# **SCHEDULE 1(b)**

# **Potential M&A Counterparties**

[Confidential]

# **SCHEDULE 1(c)**

## **Wallet Motion Objecting Parties**

[Confidential]

[Confidential]

[Confidential]

[Confidential]

[Confidential]

Deferred 1031

[Confidential]

# SCHEDULE 1(d)

# **Adhoc Committee Members**

[Confidential]

# **SCHEDULE 1(e)**

# **Reed Smith Ad Hoc Committee**

BCF 2020 Investments LLC BMB 2020 Investments LLC [Confidential] [Confidential] [Confidential] FP Equity Investments LLC [Confidential]

# SCHEDULE 1(f)

#### **Non-Debtor Professionals**

Ansell Grimm & Aaron PC
Brown Rudnick LLP
Clark Hill
Fox Rothschild LLP
Genova Burns LLC
Loeb & Loeb LLP
McCarter & English, LLP
Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky, & Popeo, P.C.
Reed Smith LLP
Stevens & Lee PC
Straffi & Straffi Attorneys at Law
Straffi, Daniel E., Jr., Esq.
Troutman Pepper Hamilton Sanders LLP
Venable LLP

Wolf, Rifkin, Shapiro, Schulman & Rabkin LLP

Webber McGill LLC

# **SCHEDULE 1(g)**

#### **Notice of Appearance Parties**

[Confidential][Confidential][Confidential][Confidential][Confidential][Confidential][Confidential][Confidential]

[Confidential] Teixeira, Rui Pedro Vaz dos Santos

[Confidential] Towards Equilibrium LLC

[Confidential] [Confidential]

[Confidential] [Confidential]

Marex Capital Markets Inc.

#### **SCHEDULE 1(h)**

#### **Unredacted Potential M&A Counterparties**

AP Capital EQT

Apollo Global Management Inc.

Ares Management Corp.

Aspen Creek Digital Corp.

Atlas Technology Group LLC

Fortress Investment Group
Global X Management Co. LLC
GoldenTree Asset Management LP
Hudson Bay Capital Management LP

Backbone Mining Solutions KKR & Co. Inc.

Bain Capital LP KryptoVault

Baupost Group LLC, The

Binance US

Magnetar Capital LLC

Binance.com

Marathon Digital Holdin

Binance.com Marathon Digital Holdings Inc.
Bitdeer MaxBoring LLC

BlackRock Inc.

Blackstone Inc.

MaxBoring LEC

Merkle Standard

Morgan Stanley

Blue Owl Capital Inc.

Oak Hill Capital Management LLC

Brevan Howard Oaktree

Brigade Capital Redwood Capital Management LLC
Castlelake Silver Point Capital LP

Castlelake Silver Point Capital LP
Centerbridge Sixth Street

Cerberus Capital Management SkyBridge Capital

Chicago Atlantic Group LLC Temasek
D.E. Shaw Thoma Bravo

D.E. Shaw Thoma Bravo LP
Davidson Kempner Thomas H. Lee Partners LP

Disrupt Ventures LLC

Elliott Investment Management

US Farms & Mining Inc.

Vistra Group

#### Schedule 2

List of parties in interest, or affiliates thereof, that currently or formerly engage(d) BRG, sorted by their relationship to the Debtors, that are unrelated to these Cases<sup>5</sup>

#### **Banks**

First Citizens Bank\*
Peapack-Gladstone Bank\*
Webster Bank

#### **Potential M&A Counterparties**

[Confidential]
[Confidential]
[Confidential]\*

#### **Non-Debtor Professionals**

Clark Hill\*
Reed Smith LLP

Unredacted Potential M&A
Counterparties
Aspen Creek Digital Corp.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Potential Parties in Interest that are marked with an asterisk are related to closed matters.